

No 1 Multi Academy Trust for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2019 AND NO 3 IN 2018

Top 10 National Pupil Progress

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2018 AND 2019



1st February 2021

Dear Parents,

Another week has very quickly flown by as has January and I hope that this letter finds you and your families well.

As always, my weekly letter home will be to update you about a range of things and hopefully provide you with lots of up-to-date information whether your child is at home or in school.

Firstly, I would like to thank all of the wonderful parent and grandparent teachers, who every day are supporting their children and grandchildren with their remote learning. Thank you for everything you continue to do as you have created time, space, routine and individualised support to ensure that great learning happens. This really is no mean feat and you are doing an amazing job! As I mentioned in an earlier letter, it is important that you are kind to yourself, too. Please do what you can, what is manageable and sustainable for you and your family. We are here to support in any way that we can so please, please make contact.

Children's Mental Health Week

From 1st – 7th February is Children's Mental Health Week and this year's theme is 'Express Yourself.' Expressing yourself is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas, through creativity. This could be through art, music, writing and poetry, dance and drama, photography and film, and doing activities that make us feel good.

I know that the teachers have been thinking about different activities that they can set you linked to this theme so watch out for them on Google Classroom or in the paper packs that some of you are collecting.

Below is a link to an assembly all about the week if you want to watch it.



<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/news/watch-our-children-s-mental-health-week-assembly-with-bafta-kids-and-oak-national-academy/>

Staying Connected

Live Sessions

These sessions are proving to be really popular with all of our families so thank you for your feedback regarding these. It is really lovely for the children to not only see their teacher but their friends and classmates, too. N.B Please note the permanent change from Thursday to Wednesday afternoon for Mr Grinsill and the Maples



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Times/Day	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Rowans – Y1		9.00 – 9.30 am	9.00 – 9.30 am	9.00 – 9.30 am	
Beeches – Y2		11.30 am – 12.00pm	11.30 am – 12.00pm		9.00 – 9.30 am
Maples – Y3		1 – 1.30pm	1 – 1.30pm		1.45 – 2.15pm
Hollies – Y4			1 – 1.30pm	10.45 – 11.15 am	1 – 1.30pm
Oaks – Y5		1.45 – 2.15pm	1.45 – 2.15pm	1.45 – 2.15pm	
Monkey Puzzles – Y6	9.45 – 10.15am	9.45 – 10.15am	9.45 – 10.15am	9.45 – 10.15am	9.45 – 10.15am

The class teacher will send the link (through Google Classroom) you need to access 5 minutes before your session starts and will admit you into the group.

Tea and Talk

We held our first session last week and a group of parents came together with Mr Grinsill to check-in and to share their experiences. There was lots of very positive feedback from this group which included: the content of the class meets and the focus on well-being and reading stories; modelled video clips (especially in Maths); the amount of work being set and video recordings where children could hear their teachers' voice.



Our parents also shared ideas about how things could be further improved which covered a range of topics. Over the next few weeks, we will look at ways to address these points and we really valued this feedback

This week's focus on Thursday 4th February (from 12.45pm – 1.30pm) will be all about supporting your child's mental health and well-being and we will be joined by Mrs Kavanagh, our new Family Support Worker. She will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. Please contact Miss Lea in the academy office for the link. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.



Looking after ourselves

Even in 'normal' times, looking after ourselves as parents is so important and this is more important than ever as we juggle work life, home life and now teaching our children at home, too. It is even more vital to all find ways to look after ourselves. Here are some links to some amazing support that is out there for us all.



<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/>
<https://www.time-to-change.org.uk/coronavirus>
<https://www.talkworks.dpt.nhs.uk/> (currently offering a priority service to Key Workers in NHS, Social care and Police)
<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/supporting-your-child-s-mental-health/>
<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/>
<https://www.thepathway2success.com/10-mindfulness-activities-you-can-try-today/>
<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/health/wellness/g32267191/mindfulness-activities/>

Please look after yourselves. Thank you for your ongoing support and remember that we are here for you!

My very best wishes and thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S.A. Ryan".

Miss Ryan
Head of Academy